

Interview Summary:

The Examiner is thanked for his insights and comments during the interview with Mr. Jennings on Wednesday, July 30, 2003. The topics of the interview were as follows.

Nomenclature issues regarding the phrase head arm collection, head arm, in particular first head arm, second head arm, and third head arm, as well as actuator arm. Mr. Jennings agreed with the Examiner that head arms 50-56 are often called actuator arms in other texts. Both agreed that the use of the phrase ‘voice coil actuator arm’ in the application to include what elsewhere might be commonly called an actuator arm assembly or stack, precluded introducing the phrase actuator arm parenthetically. Both agreed that though unusual, the terms used in the application were consistent within the document, and did constitute acceptable language under the rule that inventors and their representatives could be “their own lexicographers”.

The issue of forming a ground plane of the metallic body of the head arm, and its relationship to the cited prior art. Mr. Jennings pointed out that the cited prior art, while pointing to flexures, which were relevant, did not point to using the metallic body of the head arm as a ground plane, as discussed in the patent application. Young (US 5,717,547) discloses multi-track transmission lines, which in some cases, is given a ground plane as part of the flex circuitry over what is generally called the load beam, and in this application, the head/slider unit. Similarly, Klaassen (US 5,608,591) discloses one or more ground planes again located in the flex cable.

Issues of **enablement** and how to resolve them in the specification, the figures and the claims. Mr. Jennings agreed to add the amendments to the specification and figures as discussed. The amended specification regarding Figures 3B and 3C points out head arm 150 as the second head arm, head arm 152 as the first head arm, and head arm 154 as the third head arm.

Antecedent basis problems found in claims 25 to 27 were discussed in the interview. The amended claims found hereafter incorporate Mr. Jennings’ notes.